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Message Text

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---------- 013859
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 201972

FOLLOWING REPEAT PARIS 20279 ACTION SECSTATE INFO
OTTAWA 26 AUGUST.

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 20279

NESCO

E.O.11652:N/A
TAGS: AORG, PFOR, CA, FR, UNESCO
SUBJECT: CANADIAN AND US MEMBERSHIP IN EUROPEAN REGIONAL GROUP OF UNESCO; REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATION.

1. IN PREPARATION OF CONSIDERATION OF SUBJECT MATTER BY UNESCO 19TH GENCONF NEXT OCTOBER, ACTING US PERMREP CALLED AUG. 22 ON CANADIAN PERMREP (AMB. GAGNON) TO EXCHANGE INFORMATION AND DISCUSS STRATEGY.

2. ACCORDING TO GAGNON, CANADIAN FOREIGN OFFICE HAS MADE DEMARCHES TO CAPITALS OF ALL UNESCO MEMBER STATES OVER PAST THREE MONTHS TO ENLIST THEIR SUPPORT FOR CANADIAN MEMBERSHIP. AS FOLLOW UP MEASURE, GAGNON CALLED ON MOST PERMREPS IN PARIS, AS HE PUT IT, "TO INSURE THAT INSTRUCTIONS HAVE BEEN PASSED THROUGH."

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3. THIS COMBINED EFFORT HAS PRODUCED HIGHLY SATISFAC-

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TORY RESULT, NAMELY: AS OF AUG. 21, SEVENTY (70) MEMBER STATES ARE OFFICIALLY COMMITTED TO SUPPORT CANADA'S ENTRY INTO UNESCO EUROPEAN REGIONAL GROUP. THESE INCLUDE: ALL WE (EXCEPT FRANCE AND NETHERLANDS); MOST ASIA (INCLUDING JAPAN), MOST LA AND AFRICA (INCLUDING SENEGAL AND DAHOMEY), PLUS YUGOSLAVIA, RUMANIA AND CZECHOSLOVAKIA. AS FOOTNOTE, DAHOMEY SPECIFICALLY STATED THAT ENDORSEMENT OF CANADIAN MEMBERSHIP DID NOT REPEAT NOT EXTEND TO INCLUSION OF U.S.

4. ACCORDING TO GAGNON, EGYPT, LIBYA AND TUNISIA GAVE VERY ENCOURAGING RESPONSES, ALTHOUGH NOT YET FORMALLY COMMITTED. ONE OF THE REASONS OF ARAB HESITATION IS THEIR CONCERN ABOUT ISRAEL'S INTENTION IN THIS REGARD. IF LATTER ALSO APPLY FOR EUROPEAN MEMBERSHIP AT THIS TIME, GEGNON FEELS THAT ARABS WILL NOT ONLY STRONGLY OPPOSE BUT WILL EXERT PRESSURE ON OTHER COUNTRIES TO OPPOSE ISRAEL. THIS MIGHT SERIOUSLY UPSET US AND CANADIAN EFFORTS TO ENTER THE REGION, GAGNON CONCLUDED. HE SAID HE WILL SOON BE MEETING WITH NEW ISRAELI AMBASSADOR TO UNESCO RE THIS QUESTION AND SUGGESTED THAT US SHOULD ALSO USE ITS INFLUENCE TO DISSUADE ISRAELIS FROM PRESSING THEIR ENTRY AT THIS TIME

5. RECALLING STRONG FRENCH OPPOSITION TO INCLUSION OF US AND CANADA INTO UNESCO EUROPEAN REGION, DURING 92 EXBD MEETING IN MAY 1973, GAGNON SPECULATED THAT UNDER NEW REGIME FRANCE MIGHT BE SOMEWHAT LESS DETERMINED IN OPPOSING SUCH ENTRY. HE SAID THAT CANADIAN AMBASSADOR TO FRANCE RAISED THIS QUESTION DURING HIS RECENT CALL ON FOREIGN MINISTER SAUVAGNARGUES. LATTER, APPARENTLY NOT TOO FAMILIAR WITH SUBJECT BUT WAS SOMEWHAT SURPRISED WHEN TOLD OF PREVIOUS FRENCH POSITION THIS MATTER. HE PROMISED TO LOOK INTO SUBJECT WHICH CANADIANS WILL SOON BE RAISING WITH HIM AGAIN.

COMMENT: FACT THAT SENEGAL AND DAHOMEY PROMISED TO SUPPORT CANDIAN MEMBERSHIP ALSO SUGGESTS THAT FRENCH MAY BE LESS ADAMANT RE THIS ISSUE NEXT FALL. ALSO, RUMANIAN AND CZECH OFFICIAL COMMITMENT TO CANADA
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INDICATES THAT USSR NOT LIKELY TO TAKE HARD LINE ON US ENTRY.

6. RECOMMENDATION:
TO MAINTAIN CANDIAN ACHIEVEMENT, WHICH INDIRECTLY PREPARED GROUND FOR OUR CASE, AND TO INSURE BEST CHANCE OUR OBJECTIVE AT 18 GENERAL CONFERENCE NEXT FALL, WE RECOMMEND THAT (A) HIGH-LEVEL APPROACH BE MADE AT

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FRENCH EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON; (B) US EMBASSY HERE BE ASKED TO MAKE APPROPRIATE HIGH-LEVEL APPROACH TO FRENCH FOREIGN MINISTER; (C) POSTS IN ALL EUROPEAN CAPITALS AND SELECTED CAPITALS IN ASIA, AFRICA, ARAB, AND LA COUNTRIES BE SPECIFICALLY INSTRUCTED TO MAKE HIGH-LEVEL DEMARCHE WITHIN NEXT TWO-THREE WEEKS TO BUILD SUPPORT FOR OUR CASE; (D) US PERMREP BE AUTHORIZED TO UNDERTAKE PROPER FOLLOW-UP WITH ALL PERMDELS STATIONED IN PARIS AND (E) US SUBMIT NOW TO UNESCO SECRETARIAT DRAFT RESOLUTION (SUGGESTED TEXT FOLLOWS):

THE GENERAL CONFERENCE,
1. RECALLING ITS 13 C/RESOLUTION 5.91 WHICH DEFINED REGIONS WITH A VIEW TO THE EXECUTION OF REGIONAL ACTIVITIES,

2. RECALLING ALSO, THAT BY ITS 14 C/RESOLUTION 23, THE GENERAL CONFERENCE ADOPTED REGULATIONS GIVING AUTHORITY TO THE EXECUTIVE BOARD TO DECIDE, INTER ALIA, ON THE MEMBER STATES TO BE INVITED TO MEETINGS IN CATEGORY II, INCLUDING REGIONAL MEETINGS,

3. RECALLING FURTHER DECISION 4.2 OF THE 92ND EXECUTIVE BOARD WHICH, INTER ALIA, (1) ESTABLISHED GUIDELINES IN DETERMINING INVITATIONS TO REGIONAL MEETINGS OF AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL CHARACTER AND (2) ACKNOWLEDGED THE RIGHT OF CANADA AND THE UNITED STATES TO JOIN THE EUROPEAN REGION.

4. HAVING EXAMINED DOCUMENT 18 C/43 RELATING TO THE DEFINITION OF REGIONS WITH A VIEW TO THE EXECUTION BY UNESCO OF REGIONAL ACTIVITIES,
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5. RECOGNIZES THAT IT IS THE RIGHT AND DUTY OF EVERY MEMBER STATE TO PARTICIPATE FULLY AND ON A REGULAR BASIS BOTH IN THE INTERNATIONAL AND REGIONAL ACTIVITIES OF THE ORGANIZATION,

6. APPROVES THE DECISION TAKEN BY THE EXECUTIVE BOARD AT ITS 92ND SESSION ON THE INCLUSION OF CANADA AND THE UNITED STATES IN THE EUROPEAN REGIONAL GROUP OF UNESCO. STONE UNQUOTE KISSINGER

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